

THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

February 2010

DISPOSING OF USDA FOODS



The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide a minimum level of commodities to each state for the NSLP. This level of commodities support is referred to as the state's entitlement.

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Food Distribution Program is required to follow the USDA regulations in administering the program to NSLP participants.

The OPI Food Distribution Program requires that all School Food Authorities (SFA) follow the regulations listed below to prevent the waste of entitlement dollars.

1. USDA Foods shall be requested in quantities which can be consumed without waste.
2. USDA Foods shall not be sold, exchanged or otherwise disposed of without the approval of the OPI Food Distribution Office.

USDA Foods may be transferred between like recipient agencies only.

The OPI Food Distribution Office must be notified prior to the transfer of or the disposal of any USDA Foods. Forms for transfer or disposal of USDA Foods can be found at www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.html under Commodity Forms.

If you have further questions regarding USDA Foods contact Food Distribution at (406) 444-4415.

COOPERATIVE PURCHASE PROGRAM BID WINNER

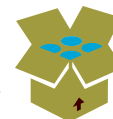


Sysco Foodservice of Montana is the winner of the winter bid. They will begin delivering the first of four deliveries soon.

For additional information contact Kennie Johnson at (406) 444-4412.

ADDITIONAL USDA FOODS

There are still some USDA Foods available for those schools that still have entitlement dollars available.



Both the updated Remaining Entitlement Balances list and the Available USDA Foods list can be found under Commodity Information

on the Food Distribution Web site at www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.htm.

If you have questions contact OPI Food Distribution at (406) 444-4415.

DoD FRESH DOLLAR\$

Those districts that have DoD Fresh dollars available are reminded that the entitlement dollars must be spent before the end of the 2009-10 school year. If you do not plan to spend your entitlement dollars please contact Kennie Johnson at (406) 444-4412 so that she can allocate your dollars to another district.



2011 USDA FOODS ORDER UPDATE

Bakery Mix, Refried Beans, Blueberries Cult, and LSF Soybean Oil, will not be purchased. Districts that ordered the LSF Soybean Oil will receive Vegetable Oil in its place. There are still a few items that are in question and the OPI Food Distribution office is waiting to hear from surrounding states to see if they might share some truckloads with us.

A720 Prk Crumb w/SPP is a new bonus item that will be available for the 2011 school year.

The OPI Food Distribution Program is working on the details of the new Processing category. Since the meat processors do not use Net Off Invoice (NOI), and require 2,000

pound minimum orders (approximately 50 cases), this creates a problem for small districts.

At this time the OPI Food Distribution Program is also making changes to the order form program. Once it is up and running it will be available for pork crumbles orders and to make changes to replace items that will not be purchased along with any changes that may need to be made in the Processing category. Stay tuned.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK

Don't forget National School Breakfast Week coming up March 8-12, 2010.

Visit www.schoolnutrition.org, the School Nutrition Association Web site for campaign information, menus, decorating ideas, and some great tips on how to make this the best School Breakfast Week ever.

Research has shown that starting each day with a nutritious breakfast helps students stay alert and perform better in school. Having breakfast in the morning also helps children develop healthy eating habits and contributes to their overall well-being.

If your school is interested in starting a breakfast program, contact School Nutrition Programs at (406) 444-2501.



School Breakfast - Ready, Set, Go!
National School Breakfast Week
March 8-12, 2010